(c) whether Government have taken up the matter with the Department of Chemicals to include these vaccines under category-I; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Department of Chemicals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has recommended for inclusion in Category-I, drugs used for Eight Nation Health Programmes which include Vaccines for Expanded Programme on Immunisation (EPI). However, Vaccines have not been included in Category-I.

Department of Chemicals and Petro-Chemicals which has promulgated the Drugs Prices Control Order, 1987, which includes Category-I list of drugs has, taking into consideration several factors such as indigenous production, consumption, availability and need, considered it not desirable to include vaccines in Category-I.

Drugs required under National Health Programme

305. DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of programmes covered under National Health Programmes;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have not recommended drugs for inclusion under category-I required for a number of diseases falling under National Health Programme and the names of the programmes for which drugs were not recommended for inclusion;

(c) what are the reasons and circumstances under which drugs required for those programmes have not been included;

(d) whether it is a fact that Government have not recommended vitamin A for price control which is only used for control of blindness; and

(e) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) There are eleven National Health Programmes.

(b) to (e) Drugs required for the following National Health Programmes have not so far been recommended for inclusion in Category I of the Drug Price Control Order.

1. STD Control: Drugs for STD are mainly antibiotics which are not exclusively used for this Programme. They are used for other infections also and are included in Category-II of the DPCO.

2. National FW Programme including Mother and Child Health: Folic Acid and Vitamin A which are used under National Family Welfare Programme covering Mother and Child Health have been included in Category II of the Drug Price Control order as they are used for other conditions also. Ferrous Sulphate being used for other purposes besides mother and child health, has not been recommended for price control.

3. National AIDS Control Programme: There are, as of now, no specific drugs for treatment of AIDS.

Drugs required for blindness Control Programme

306. DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3406 given in the Rajya Sabha on 9th December, 1987 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have recommended Tetracycline and Hydrocortisone for in-

clusion under category I under control of blindness programme;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these two drugs are used for other diseases also and if so, names of those diseases; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Vitamin A, Folic Acid and Ferrous Sulphate were not recommended for inclusion under category I because these drugs are used for treatment of other diseases apart from required for National Health Programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Hydrocortisone, Tetracycline in drops and ointment forms manufactured as sterile products are exclusively meant for opthalmic use. However, in other dosage forms they can be used in other diseases viz. skin disease, in infections etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Vaccines under National Health Programme included in category I

307. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3406 given in the Rajya Sabha on 9th December, 1987 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only six National Health Programmes have been included in Category I of DPCO, 1987;

(b) what are the reasons for non-inclusion of drugs required for two other National Programmes as recommended by the Government; and

(c) what are the drugs recommended for price control under category I required for expanding programme of immunisation and Goitre falling under National Health Programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c) Out of the Eight National Programmes, drugs required for Goitre and Expanded Programme on Immunisation were not included. Iodised salts used for prevention of goitre is considered as food and not as drug. With regard to vaccines used in EPI Programme, seven vaccines were recommended viz. DPT, DT, TT, BCG; Polio; Typhoid and Measles vaccines. None of these vaccines has been included in Category I.

Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals which has promulgated the Drugs Prices Control Order, 1987 which includes Category I list of drugs has, taking into consideration several factors such as indigenous production, consumption, availability and need, considered it not desirable to include vaccines in Category I.

Recommendation of the vaccines for inclusion in the Category I

308. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3406 given in the Rajya Sabha on 9th December, 1987 and state:

(a) what are the names of the vaccines recommended for inclusion in category I of DPCO falling under EPI National Health Programme along with the date of recommendation;

(b) the number of these vaccines have been included in category I; and

(c) what are the reasons for non-inclusion of other vaccines and by when the same will be included?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) For EPI Programmes, seven vaccines were